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LETTER DATED 10 NOVEMBER 1992 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF IRAQ TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to inform you that United States aircraft continued their violations of Iraqi airspace for purposes of observation and provocation between 31 October and 6 November 1992. During the same period, United States aircraft also continued to drop flares on areas in the Ninawa Governorate in northern Iraq. The incidents were as follows:

31 October-1 November 1992

(a) Northern region: 22 sorties, flown at speeds of 600 to 900 kilometres per hour and at altitudes of 3,000 to 7,500 metres, centred over Mosul, Irbil, Dohuk, Tall Afar, Zakho and Amadiyah.

(b) Southern region: 68 sorties, flown by F-4, F-14, F-15 and F-16 aircraft at speeds of 600 to 900 kilometres per hour and at altitudes of 5,000 to 9,000 metres, centred over Nasiriyah, Samawah, Salman, Qurnah, Artawi, Jabaliyah, Qal'at Salih and Busayyah.

At 1700 hours on 31 October 1992, two United States aircraft dropped eight heat flares between the township of Fayidah and the lake formed by Saddam Dam in the Ninawa Governorate.

1-2 November 1992

(a) Northern region: 30 sorties, flown at speeds of 600 to 800 kilometres per hour and at altitudes of 4,000 to 8,000 metres, centred over Mosul, Irbil, Dohuk, Amadiyah, Zakho and Tall Afar.

(b) Southern region: 61 sorties, flown by F-4, F-14, F-15 and F-16 aircraft at speeds of 600 to 900 kilometres per hour and at altitudes of 4,000 to 10,000 metres, centred over Amarah, Nasiriyah, Samawah, Shatrah, Jabaliyah and Busayyah.

At 1043 hours on 1 November 1992, a formation of two United States F-16 aircraft broke the sound barrier over Firnas airfield at Mosul.

2-3 November 1992

(a) Northern region: 19 sorties, flown at speeds of 600 to 900 kilometres per hour and at altitudes of 4,000 to 6,000 metres, centred over Mosul, Irbil, Dohuk, Zakho and Amadiyah.

(b) Southern region: 30 sorties, flown at speeds of 600 to 900 kilometres per hour and at altitudes of 5,000 to 7,500 metres, centred over Nasiriyah, Amarah, Samawah, Busayyah, Shatrah and Artawi.

At 1541 hours on 2 November 1992, a United States formation dropped four heat flares from moderate altitude on Saddam Dam in the Ninawa Governorate.

3-4 November 1992

(a) Northern region: 22 sorties, flown at speeds of 600 to 900 kilometres per hour and at altitudes of 4,000 to 8,500 metres, centred over Mosul, Irbil, Dohuk, Zakho, Amadiyah and Dukan.

(b) Southern region: 76 sorties, flown by F-4, F-14, F-15 and F-16 aircraft at speeds of 600 to 900 kilometres per hour and at altitudes of 6,000 to 8,000 metres, centred over Nasiriyah, Amarah, Samawah, Salman, Jabaliyah, Qal'at Salih and Ansab.

At 1430 hours on 3 November 1992, two United States aircraft dropped five heat flares on the lake formed by Saddam Dam in the Ninawa Governorate.

4-5 November 1992

(a) Northern region: 20 sorties, flown at speeds of 600 to 900 kilometres per hour and at altitudes of 1,500 to 5,000 metres, centred over Mosul, Irbil, Dohuk, Zakho, Amadiyah and Ayn Zalah.

(b) Southern region: 29 sorties, flown by F-4, F-14 and F-15 aircraft at speeds of 600 to 900 kilometres per hour and at altitudes of 4,000 to 10,000 metres, centred over Nasiriyah, Samawah, Qal'at Salih, Artawi, Busayyah, Shatrah and Qurnah.

5-6 November 1992

(a) Northern region: 14 sorties, flown at speeds of 600 to 900 kilometres per hour and at altitudes of 4,000 to 6,000 metres, centred over Mosul, Dohuk, Zakho and Amadiyah.

(b) Southern region: 52 sorties, flown by F-14, F-15, F-16 and Mirage aircraft at speeds of 600 to 900 kilometres per hour and at altitudes of 4,000 to 8,000 metres, centred over Nasiriyah, Samawah, Qal'at Salih, Al-Khadr, Artawi and Busayyah.

A TR-1 aircraft engaged in hostile reconnaissance over southern Iraq from an altitude of 20,000 metres, entering the area at 1157 hours and leaving it at 1305 hours.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Nizar HAMDOON
Ambassador
Permanent Representative